

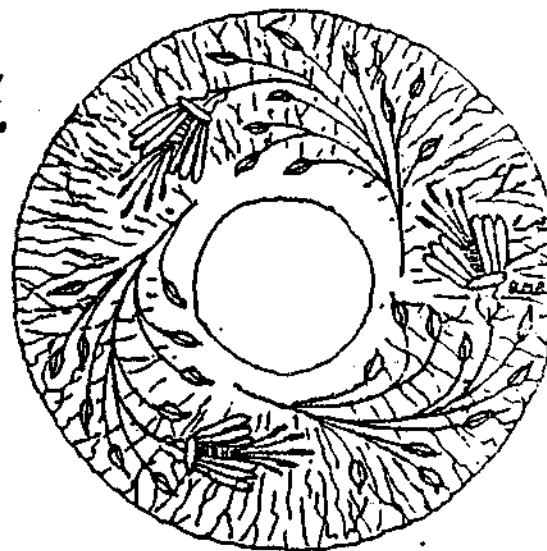
Stretch Glass Society

Founded April 21, 1974 - Denver, Pennsylvania

VOLUME XI

Number 4

January, 1985



Presidents Message

Dear Members of the Stretch Glass Society:

The market for good stretch glass, in nice patterns internally, and in good colors seems to be holding quite steady. When the unusual pieces can be found in the antique shows and flea markets, the dealers either do not know what they have, or they are comparing it to Frederick Carder's Steuben glass which sometimes had a stretch effect. The prices are either very high, or because of lack of knowledge, it is very low - and called Depression Glass.

Not much of it has been appearing on the market, possibly because so many of the carnival glass collectors call it Carnival and it is in their collections.

Those pieces with cutting on them like Ann Cummings wants (a member of our organization from Houston), are literally non-existent; and when a piece can be found, you may depend on it that it has a price tag above the average buyer's level. One just doesn't pay \$350 for a piece of stretch glass in a small piece with little or no cutting.

In the newly-opened Summit Art Glass in Rootstown, Ohio, Russell Vogelsong tells me that in the future he will be making some iridized glass with the stretch glass effect. Remember? He is the one who sold us the pigs for souvenirs one year. He has his new shop open now, with some 85 molds from the now defunct Westmoreland Glass Co. and some few molds from the defunct Imperial Glass Co. We will let you know when it comes on the market with the marking of a "V" in a circle - for Vogelsong.

Several people, members of the American Stretch Glass Society have written stories and articles which they have sent to our Editor and they will be forthcoming, if not in this issue - then in later Newsletters. Thank you. This is appreciated because if there is no input, there can be no output. Besides, it is interesting to know what is going on in different areas of the country.

We do appreciate Alma's efforts. Being the editor of the A.C.G.A. as well as our own collectors' club is a full-time job. It is greatly appreciated. Doesn't she do a nice job? Write her and tell her. Everyone needs a pat on the back at times - if for no other reason than to BURP them.

Berry Wiggins is still working on the Convention in Marietta. The hotel has changed hands there, but it will make no difference in our Convention. I am certain he will do his usual fine job in setting up the meeting which will take place in May.

Blessings on each of you in this Holy Season. Whether it is Christmas or Hanukkah, have a happy and blessed time in your Holiday.

Sincerely yours,

Jabe Tarter

STRETCH GLASS SOCIETY OFFICERS

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Dues: \$5.00 per family per year; payable to Treasurer April 1st.

[illegible]

We welcome the two new members to our Board of Directors - Helen Cooper (OR) and Mary Louise Ryan (MD) to replace the two who were dropped when they failed to renew their memberships this year. We hear, via the grapevine, that Helen and her husband are planning on attending the Convention this year. Is that true, Helen? We recall how much we enjoyed having her with us two years ago. And what more appropriate than that Miss Stretch (Mary Louise Ryan) (MD) should be appointed to the Board?



ROSTERS

You have, no doubt, found your new Roster enclosed with this NEWSLETTER. You have, no doubt, already noted that your Secretary "goofed." One member had requested that we not publish her address, but, being a creature of habit, it was included and then had to be "blackened out."

While you have your Roster before you, we have two changes of address to be made in it - so why not do that now before you set it aside? They are:

Beth Illes Johnson
17015 Fernway
Shaker Heights, OH 44120

Kenneth L. Clark
2723 Canyon Oaks Court
Temple, TX 76502

We appreciate being advised of such changes of address before our mail is missent.



WANTED:
new members



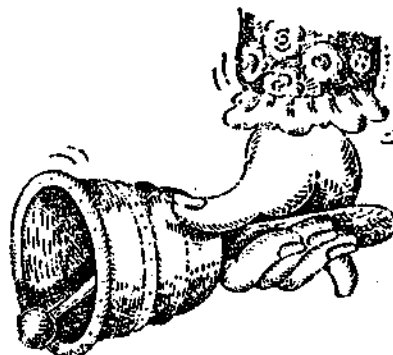
As you have no doubt noted from our Roster, we need NEW MEMBERS. Have you asked friends who are also interested in our hobby if they'd like to join? If not, why not? Just have them mail their application, with \$5, to our Treasurer.

Intercepted letter - The following is from a letter sent to our Treasurer by RUSSELL & KITTY UMBRACO: "We are remodeling our house (for our Stretch Glass displaying) and will be our #1 project for a couple of years. Still adding to our stretch collection. If you have something or hear of some unusual stretch or carnival with a stretch finish, please let us know. We are still buying. We love Stretch Glass. Happy collecting, Russell & Kitty."

Their letter brings to the fore a request that is being made of all those members who are planning on attending the Convention in Marietta on May 2, 3, 4 of 1985. If you have one or more odd pieces of Stretch Glass, you are requested to bring it (or them) to the Convention for a part of the discussion. (This should provide the Umbracos with a real temptation to attend.)

CONVENTION NEWS

As our President indicated in his message to the members, Berry Wiggins is still hard at work preparing for the Convention, but as of this date we do not have Hotel or Breakfast Reservation forms for you. If necessary, they will be sent to the members before the next NEWSLETTER in April.



We can understand the problems Berry is running into when we read newspaper items like the following which have appeared. If you will recall, Berry reported in our last Newsletter that our displays would be in the Sternwheel Room.

B2 Akron Beacon Journal

Sunday, December 30, 1984

Good morning

**Fran
Murphey**



Marietta landmark will be remodeled

Just like New York's Waldorf-Astoria, Marietta's Lafayette Hotel is booked for New Year's Eve. After Jan. 1, the hotel will be closed for remodeling until April 1. Reservations are being taken for the rest of 1985.

The hotel's popular restaurant, the Gun Room, also will be closed, but meals will be served in the Sternwheel Room. Banquet rooms also will be used during the refurbishing. Dick Mullins, who operated the Down Under restaurant in Gallipolis, is in the group that acquired the Lafayette. (614-373-5522).

Following is the full page story and pictures that appeared in The Indiana Gazette (PA) on Saturday, July 28, 1984 - sent to us by MARY & VIRGIL HENRY and we certainly do thank them for sharing this with us.

Glass plant flourished as top industry in area

By CLARENCE STEPHENSON

Gazette Contributing Writer

Glasses, vases, candy dishes and many other items made of glass in colors ranging from white to pastel pink, blue, green, amber or, occasionally, red, are found in many Indiana homes today and in other places throughout the United States. Some people know and recognize such glass treasures as "Indiana glass," but there are probably others who have Indiana glassware in their homes without being aware of their value and significance. People have been known to pay high prices for glassware at auctions and flea markets, thinking it to be made in West Virginia or Ohio, when in reality it is Indiana glass.

The story of Indiana glass began on Jan. 1, 1892 when a group of Indiana leaders gathered in the office of attorney and former State Senator George W. Hood to consider a proposal by Mr. Nevill, a visiting glass expert who had patented glass molds which he claimed would reduce the labor required and increase production by a third to a half.

Mr. Nevill urged the erection of a factory to manufacture glass in Indiana. He felt that here he would not encounter the antagonism of labor unions which in the larger cities had opposed his labor-saving ideas.

The result of this meeting was that \$12,000 was immediately pledged to the stock of a company. The Indiana Board of Trade shortly afterward visited the West Penn Glass Company, then under construction in Blairsville. Upon returning to Indiana, additional stock to the total amount of \$35,000 was pledged.

The company was formally organized Jan. 28, 1892, with the following directors: Harry White, W.B. Marshall, Griffith Ellis, Thomas Sutton, John S. Hastings, H.W. Wilson, and Delos A. Hetrick. Harry White was elected president and the authorized capital stock increased to \$50,000.

By Feb. 17 it was announced the factory would be located on the old State Experimental Farm (at what is now the parking lot adjoining Miller Stadium). Incorporation as the "Indiana Glass Company" followed on April 14, 1892.

In May the contract for a frame building 80x219 feet with an iron roof, was given to John S. Hastings — to be completed by Aug. 15. A new railroad siding was put in by J.R. Caldwell and J.S. Hastings. A 130-foot-deep well provided water.

Production began Monday afternoon, Nov. 14, 1892, following a speech at 2 p.m. by Judge Harry White. Afterward citizens were invited to view the plant. The first superintendent was S.W. Vandersaal. He was suc-

ceeded by Griffith Ellis for about a year.

Things did not go well at first. By 1894 the company was in debt and had to shut down. A meeting of the stockholders was held in July and at that time it was learned that only \$34,800 of the capital stock had been paid in. The cost of erecting and equipping the factory had been \$29,000. Operating expenses until the time of closure were almost \$14,000. Indebtedness was about \$11,000. Manufactured glasswares on hand were valued at \$2,200 and accounts receivable were \$700, leaving a net indebtedness of \$8,100.

A committee was named to recommend plans for liquidating the debts and resuming production: J.W. Sutton, Griffith Ellis, S.L. Loughry, John Hastings, and J.H. Young. Their report was gloomy. The glass factory, they said, was "a failure financially" and it did not appear possible to procure more working capital. Further, because "many similar plants are idle and can be bought for a small fraction of their value" it was doubtful whether it could be sold "for even its present indebtedness."

The committee recommended leasing the plant rent-free for a year with the option of buying at the end of the year for the amount of accrued indebtedness. This was adopted by the stockholders, but the works continued to be idle for about two years.

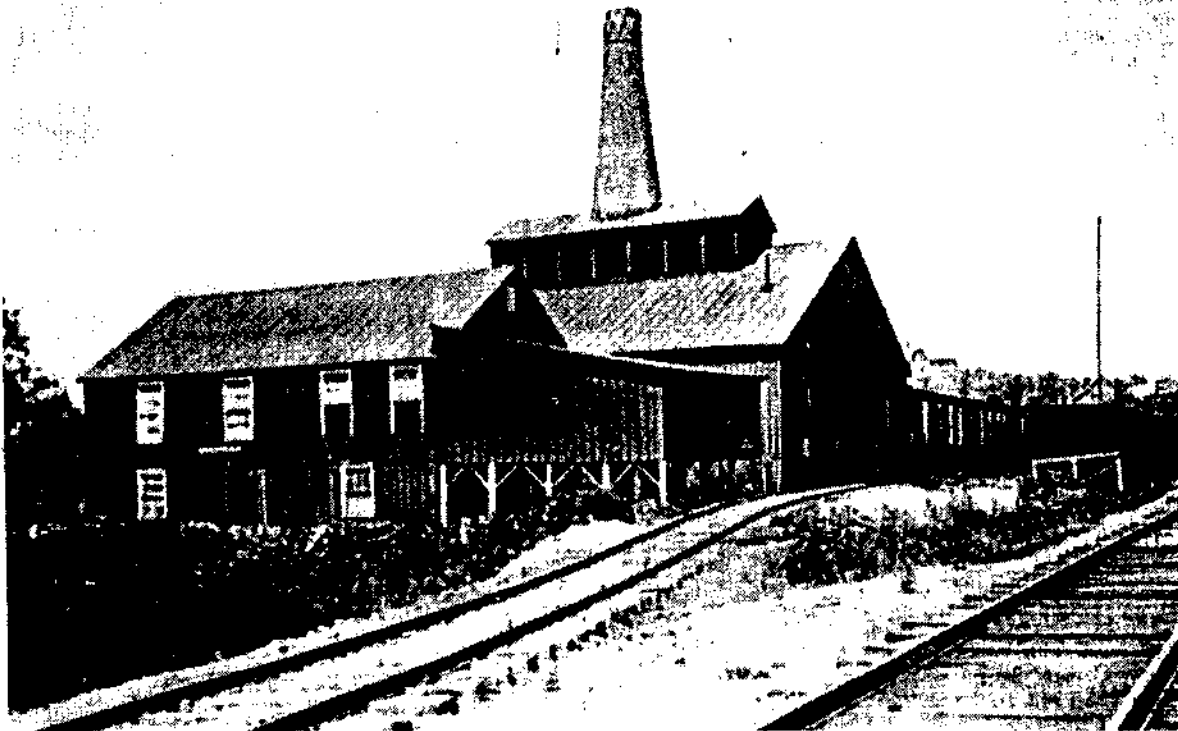
Finally in February 1896 Harry Northwood leased the plant. He was a successful owner and operator of two other glass plants, and imported from those plants a number of skilled glassworkers. The name of the company was changed to Northwood Company. Production resumed on March 25, 1896. As plant manager, Northwood employed Thomas E.A. Dugan who had come from England to the United States. Under Mr. Dugan's skilled management the glass business in Indiana prospered during the 19 years that he lived here.

In February 1897 Mr. Northwood was considering moving the plant to Blairsville. A newspaper item at that time reported that he had requested the Indiana Borough Council to install a fire hydrant at the plant some six months previously, but council hadn't bothered to answer. He was free to leave, Mr. Northwood asserted, because "I have not yet purchased the Indiana plant." This "persuasion" motivated council to install the fire hydrant.

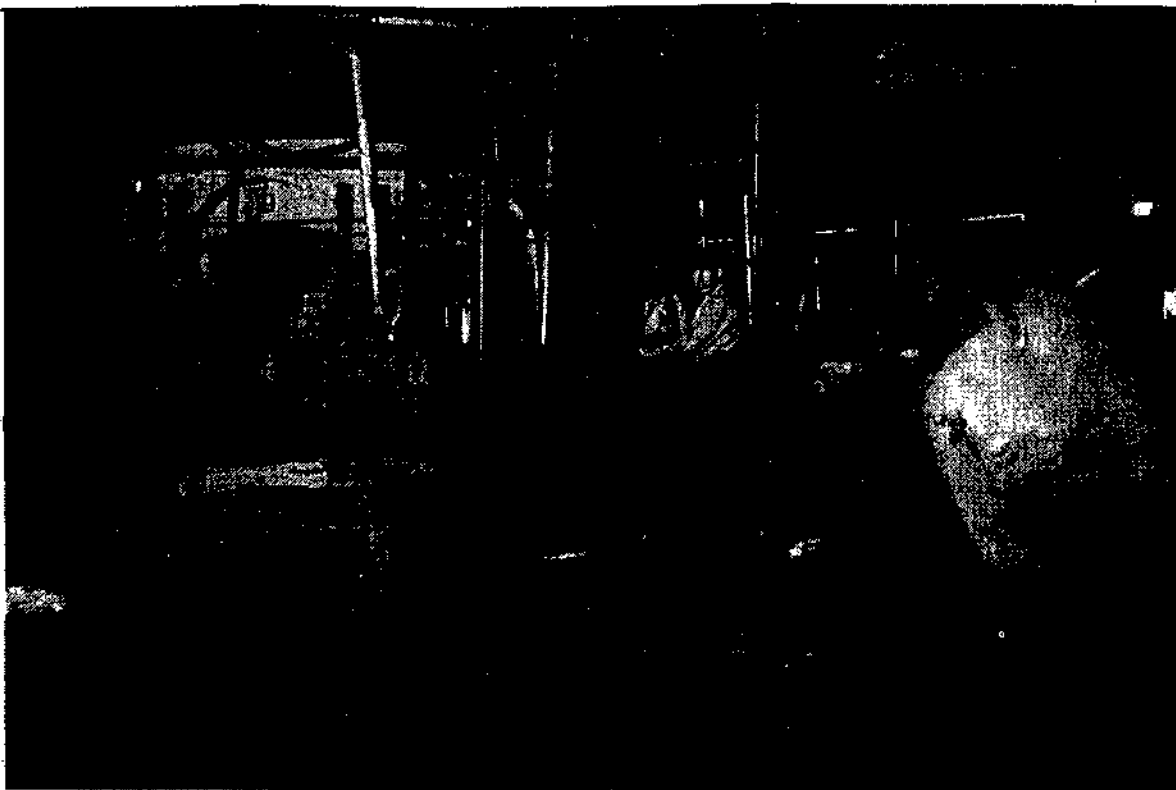
In March 1897 the plant shut down for a week while a new furnace was installed and it was reported:

"Manager Northwood is well satisfied with the arrangement of council for a fireplug near the works, and now comes to the front with another proposition which bears the earmarks of fairness.

Dugan Glass Co., Indiana, Pa.



This is the Dugan Glass Co. as it appeared in the early 1900's. It was also the Northwood Co. and the Diamond Glassware Co., manufacturers of prized "Indiana glass."



The main furnace was a circular, gas-fired affair divided into several "pots." The number 9 visible above one of the doors indicates this furnace had at least nine pots. Air for the cooling process was carried by the large tube encircling the furnace. The worker in the center of the photo is operating a press in which the hot glass was pressed into a mold.

Many of the employees of the works, in order to get to the plant by the most direct route, have to tramp through mud, ankle deep in some places, in traversing the streets back of Normal. Mr. Northwood has built a cinder path from the works to the borough limits and offers to furnish cinders free of cost to the council if they will build the walks over the much needed places in the borough.

During the last month the plant paid out about \$5,400 in wages. Last Saturday's was the largest pay in the history of the plant, the payroll amounting to \$3,100.

In February 1898 it was learned that Northwood had arranged to buy the plant for \$8,000. Of this sum he agreed to contribute \$3,000. A committee of the Board of Trade had canvassed and secured between \$4,500 and \$5,000. It was made a condition of the sale that Northwood remain and operate the plant for three to five years, at the end of which time he would receive a clear deed. The factory at this time was running night and day, and employed 225 persons — men, boys and women.

Announcement was made in July 1899 that the factory would be enlarged and shortly thereafter on Sept. 4 the company was sold to the National Glass Co. of Pittsburgh. Northwood was associated with National Glass for a time, residing in England where he managed the London office.

In 1902, Mr. Northwood liquidated his interests in National Glass Co. and went to Wheeling, W.Va., where he established another glass factory.

On June 16, 1903 National Glass Co. entered a float in the Indiana County Centennial parade "on which was displayed all kinds of glassware, and many little glass chains which kept up a merry jingle as the wagon was driven over the streets. Fifty-four glass workers walked before the float carrying glass canes."

In January 1904 National Glass Co., having experienced financial difficulties, was sold to Dugan Glass Co. for \$45,000. The transaction included \$32,000 worth of glassware in stock. Dugan Glass Co., named for Thomas E.A. Dugan, was a stock company with \$50,000 capital headed by John P. Elkin, president; Clarence R. Smith, treasurer; Dugan, superintendent; and A.S. Cunningham, J.O. Clark, D.B. Taylor and D.C. Mack, directors.

By 1907 Dugan Glass Co. was said to be the largest industry in Indiana. The "New York Industrial Recorder" gave the following account:

The Dugan Glass Co. ... (is) an immense plant, modernly equipped, covering seven acres and connected by switches with the PRR Co. and BR&P tracks. A force of 200 skilled workmen is employed.

This company manufactures the world famous Diamond "D" crystal, colored and opalescent glassware in table, lemonade and wine sets, vases, novelties, lamps, toilet bottles, etc., and originated the celebrated "Klondyke," "Louis XV," "Pagoda," "Nester," "Victor," "Venetian," "Japanese," and other equally popular lines in intaglios and filigree work. They ship all over the world and have representatives in New York, Boston, Philadelphia, St. Louis, Baltimore, Chicago, Buffalo and London, Canada, as well as in many foreign cities. Their output amounts to about \$175,000 a year.

The article said that Mr. Dugan was treasurer and general manager "and to his ability, experience and wide acquaintance the success achieved is largely due."

The ingredients for glass making were sand, lime,

soda and special coloring substances. These were put into ten iron pots arranged around a circular gas-fired furnace. When the mixture had melted a gatherer removed the molten glass by inserting a long steel bar with a knob on the end. When enough molten glass had adhered, he took it either to a blower who blew it into various shapes, or to a presser, depending on the shape of the molten glob. The presser's job was to compress the glass into various forms using a mold with a hand-operated lever.

A snap-up man removed the glass with a clamp-type device called a snap and returned it briefly to the heating process, then took it to a finished for special touches. Carry-over boys brought the glass to a Lehr — a 65-foot conveyor belt — for final cooling, inspection, counting and packing. The latter work was done by women who relegated imperfect pieces to the scrap barrels for reheating. Barrels were made by coopers in the basement.

There was also a decorating room where women polished pieces and applied paints free hand in flower and leaf patterns, also gold rims on glasses. In the cutting section men etched fine designs into other pieces, using carborundum stones.

Wages were as low as 17 cents an hour for beginning women, and ranged up to \$6 a day for skilled blowers and decorators. The work in the furnace area was extremely hot. Some employees commuted by streetcar from Ernest, Homer City and other points along the streetcar lines. There was an annual summer layoff during which repairs were made on the furnace.

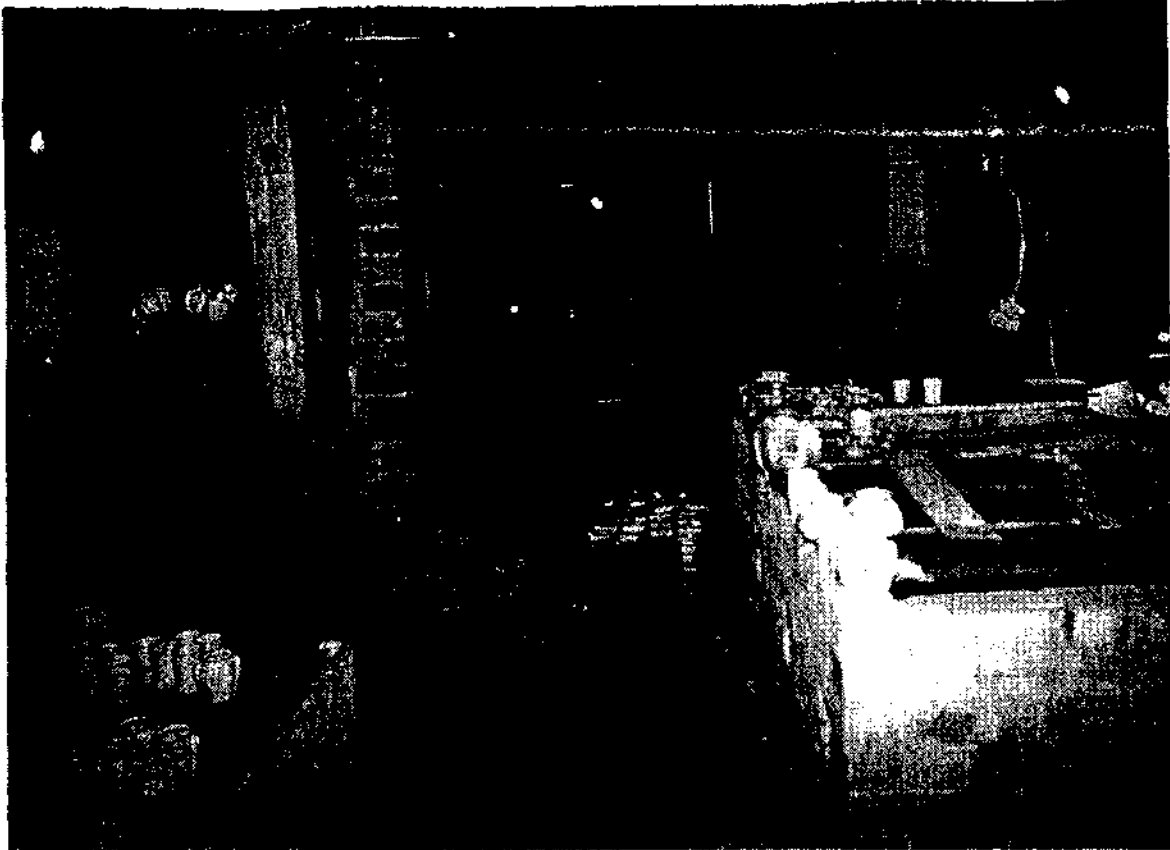
An early morning fire on Jan. 31, 1912, destroyed the mold shop and a large quantity of expensive patterns — also the cooper shop and straw shed — at a loss of \$20,000 to \$25,000. The straw was used for packing the glassware in the barrels for shipment by rail.

In 1915 the company was sold to the Diamond Glassware Co. and Mr. Dugan left at the time. During the World War I years (1914-1918) business boomed due to the closure or destruction of many European glass factories. Orders were booked months ahead, and still some orders had to be turned down. In 1916 the monthly payroll was \$18,000.

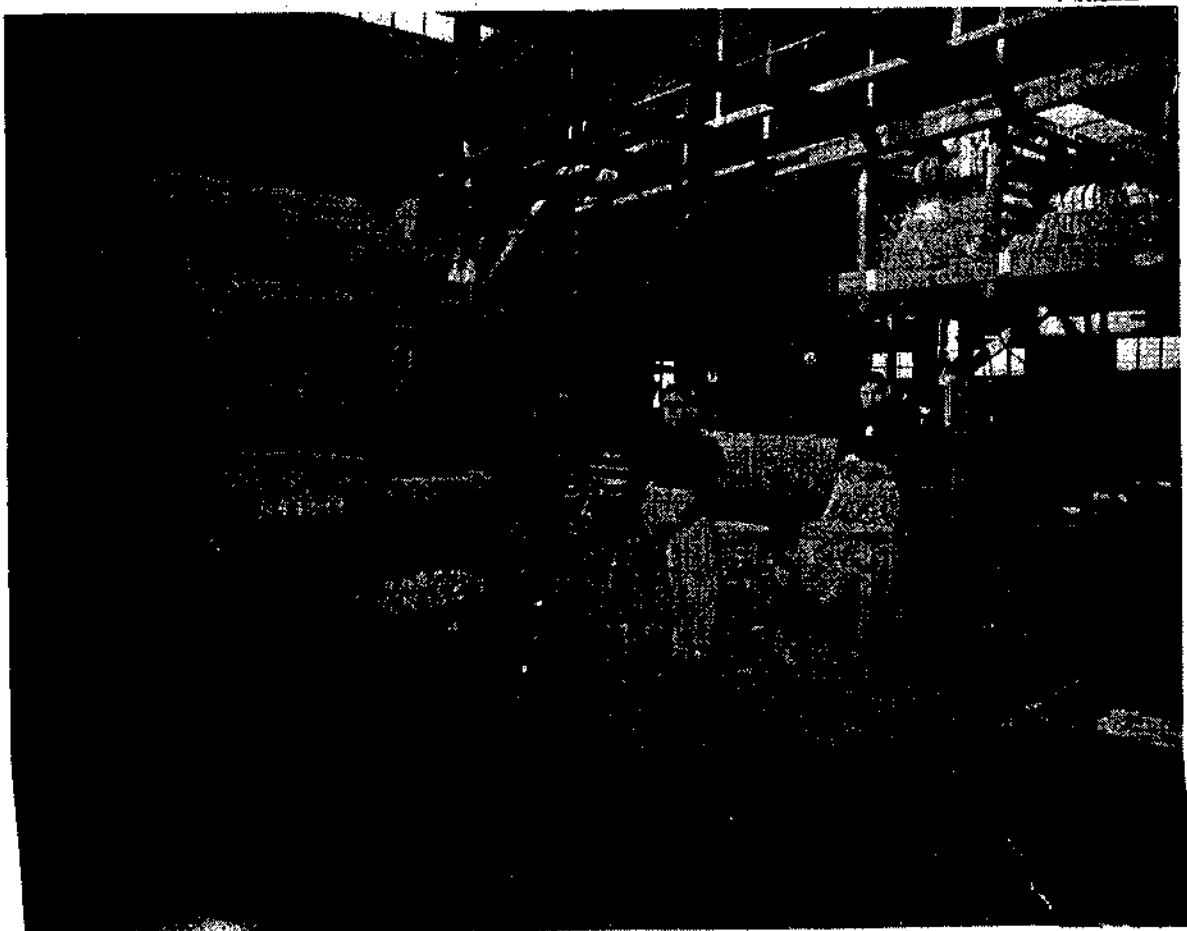
The officers of Diamond Glassware were J.R. Richards, president; D.B. Taylor, treasurer; H. Wallace Thomas, secretary and superintendent. The board of directors included H.E. Clark Jr., J.O. Clark, C.R. Smith, J.A. Crossman, A.S. Cunningham and W.G. Mianemyer.

After the war, business declined somewhat but continued reasonably good until 1930 when the effects of the Depression began to be felt and the employees were put on part-time employment. On March 10 and 11, 1930, the company's products were exhibited at the "First Annual Manufacturers' Exhibit" in the Moore Hotel. A brochure stated "Largest of Indiana's manufacturing plants is the Diamond Glass-Ware Company, which last year employed 185 to 240 people. Its products are distributed throughout the United States and also in Australia and the West Indies."

Disaster struck on June 27, 1931, when fire destroyed the stockroom and \$30,000 worth of finished glassware, the decorating room, packing room and office. The loss was estimated at \$100,000. This blow, and the Depression nationwide, proved to be too much. In spite of talk after the fire that rebuilding would be done, the plant never resumed operation. After standing idle for a number of years, the remaining buildings were razed.



Once designs were added to the glass, pieces were tempered in a "lear." Here employees remove finished products from lears at either side of the room. Tumblers, vases, and an upside-down dish are visible at front left.



Workers in the packing room wrap glassware and pack it into wooden barrels in preparation for shipment. Stenciling on the rafters at upper right indicates that 7-inch canary bowls were stored there. All three of the photos shown here are circa 1909-1910.

Wouldn't it be GREAT if all of our members would just think of it to share such information with us - as that shared below by PAUL MILLER (OH) - who received it from VIRGIL HENRY - who received it from BERRY WIGGINS:

Pittsburgh, Thursday, September 1, 1887

The re-union of the Army of West Virginia, which was the biggest thing Wheeling ever witnessed, closed on Friday, G.A.R. Day, when the number of strangers in town was estimated at 40,000. A very large proportion of this number were from Pittsburgh. The parade of the boys in blue was just a monster. The Pennsylvania division which led the parade was just eighteen minutes passing a given point. The Pennsylvania "vets," especially the Pittsburgh ones were a fine-looking body of men.

The exercises were held in a tent on the State Fair Grounds which has a capacity of 8,000 persons. On Thursday (Trades Display Day), about 30,000 were in town. The procession was over three miles long and was nearly an hour and a half passing the City Hall. The different glass factories were well represented. Hobbs, Brockunier & Co. had a striking and original display which evoked applauses all along the route. It consisted of a four-horse wagon with an ornamented canopy in pyramidal form on which was a display of their finest ware, followed by over 200 employes, and the majority of which carried a different piece of fancy glassware, from a salt cellar or a small tumbler to their largest vases, all mounted on sticks. The others carried fancy glass canes, no two of which were alike. An excellent drum corps of ten members preceded the marchers. The display of the Central Glass Co. was a first-class one. They had two, four-horse wagons in which was an imitation glass furnace with "No smoke here, --Use natural gas," inscribed on it, glass presses in operation, mold makers at work and a large exhibit.

The display of the La Belle Glass Works in three, four-horse wagons was a fine display of colored glass and was a credit to the company. In one of the wagons was a fine display of colored glass and a huge glass bell ringing. Their men all wore glass hats and their display attracted much attention.

The Wheeling Pottery Co.'s exhibit was a splendid one. They had two large wagons, on the first of which appeared an imitation kiln with the name of the pottery inscribed on it. In the other wagon was a big display of their plain and fancy wares with the name of it in artistic lettering and men at work. All of the above enterprises gave away souvenirs.

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The above article was taken from a Crockery & Glass Journal by Berry Wiggins in his research work in Washington, D. C. He gave it to Virgil "Bud" Henry because of Bud's interest in glass canes, at the Stretch Glass Convention in Independence, Ohio, the 3rd, 4th and 5th of May, 1984.

Bud was kind enough to let me make a copy of it and I thought it interesting enough to share it with you. Before we know it, this event will have taken place 100 years ago. I hope that you, too, will enjoy this article. If only it could have been captured on film.

Paul B. Miller

- - - - -

Editor's Note: I know a certain husband-member who would give a right arm for one of the glass hats mentioned above - or that "huge glass bell."

Our THANKS to PAUL B. MILLER for the following story on the Grand Opening for The Summit Art Glass Company:

Portage County in the Northeast quadrant of Ohio's Western Reserve has spawned another glass factory. Three very historic glass companies originally were built in this general area, all now historically famous and their glass products avidly sought and very rare. These original factories were: The Mantua Glass Company, Mantua, Ohio; The Ravenna Glass Company, Ravenna, Ohio; and The Franklin Glass Works, Kent, Ohio. These were all in production in the very early 1800's. Some history of these glass works has been written by Helen and George S. McKearin in their book, "Two Hundred Years of American Blown Glass."

Now, some 150 years after these famous glass factories are not much more than history, the fourth one can be added. This is The Summit Art Glass Company, 4171 Sandy Lake Road, Ravenna, Ohio 44266. This newest glass factory had its GRAND OPENING for the public on August 25th and 26th, 1984. The new factory is owned by Russell and Jo Ann Vogelsong. Below, in Russell's own words, is a short history of their beginning:

"We are just starting week ten of production at our new factory. Production began May 21, 1984. A base line color had to be established and green was chosen to begin. The first color was produced and it was an Olive Green. This established our beginning point. We then took it to an Emerald Green stage and then to an Antique Green, Blue Green, Sapphire Blue; then to a Light Cobalt.

At this point there was an experiment with Rubina (the old Cambridge, Ohio Glass Company color which shades from red to green to blue) and then into a Light Blue Crystal called 'Morning Glory.' While experimenting with the Rubina color there was one day of Dark Brown Crystal and this received the name Nut Brown.

It was then decided to experiment with an opaque glass in a green color. After two melts an attractive green opaque glass was made. This color proved to be attractive and has proven quite popular and received much comment when put on display in the factory. After the green milk glass, a Lilac-Colored milk glass was made but the first melt was Powder Blue Opaque. The following melts were in a lilac color.

At this time it was decided to start iridizing the glass and all of our items from this time forward will be both plain and iridized. The finish of iridizing is simply beautiful and is also very popular with collectors.

After deciding a breather was needed from opaques, the tank was prepared and adjusted to melt amberina glass. After two melts, production started. This Amberina is of excellent quality and color.

We have assembled a talented group of workers with the ability to provide very unusual colors and a quality product."

Four hand presses and the fire polisher plus many different items used in glass making were purchased by Summit Art Glass from the owners of the now defunct Tiffin Glass Company in Tiffin, Ohio. A quantity of the old molds were also purchased from the Tiffin plant. The new plant is a large building with plenty of room, situated on a five-acre tract of land and the public is always welcome to stop by to watch the glass being made and to see the ever-changing displays, all for sale. The plant is located just south of Ravenna, Ohio on State Route 44 and just a very short distance North of I-76 at Route 44. Portage County is fortunate indeed to have this fourth glass factory located in the Village of Rootstown, Ohio. Best Wishes to Summit Art Glass Company for a long and prosperous future!

Not too long ago, as Editor of the A.C.G.A. Newsletter, I received a letter from one of its members concerning "High Hats," along with a reprint from the August 1966 issue of American Carnival Glass News. You will note the original article was written by our President, Jabe Tarter. Jabe has submitted an update on that article and, although these "High Hats" may not be Stretch Glass, neither do they seem to fit the criteria for Carnival Glass - but they certainly are of interest to all of us who collect glass for the love of it. We are presenting the reprint of Jabe's original article, together with his update:

"HIGH HATS" HARD TO FIND!

We thought you might be interested to know the story behind the very beautiful and unusual "High Hat" glassware (see Hartung Book 4) which was related to the writer by Mr. Clarence Dettling, now deceased.

The story begins in 1906 when Clarence Dettling and his brother John were working as seedmen for their uncles, the Botzum Brothers, in Akron, Ohio. After completing training school and college in 1916, they went into business for themselves at 59 East Market Street in Akron -- the dressed chicken business, a pet shop, and some dried flower arrangements. Then in 1918, after their chicken business and pet shop were well-established and flourishing, they decided to get into the flower business by selling pompon chrysanthemums.

The Dettling Brothers were buying their flowers by the truckload from a comparatively small grower a few miles from Bellaire, Ohio, who had formerly worked for the LaBelle Glass factory but was forced to retire because of lung trouble. His heart, however, was still in the glass-blowing business and therefore, in a small brick shed on his farm, he had built a furnace for the purpose of "keeping his hand in."

Here he experimented with glasses, using as his molds designs which he worked out himself in the clay found on his farm and then fired to make them heatproof. He had about six designs, each just a little different, in a somewhat similar mold. Dettling Brothers contracted to buy all the vases he could, or rather would, produce. They used them for the small bouquets of straw flowers and chrysanthemums which they also bought from him.

In experimenting with his coloring process, which he called "Rainbow Lustre," he came up with orange, blue, green, and crystal. Each vase was shaped like a top hat or a Jack-in-the-Pulpit. The orange Rainbow Lustre, which is now called Carnival, is golden yellow from base to brim, and then shades into clear. Three sides of the brim are turned down and the other up. The blue and green Rainbow Lustre is shaped essentially the same but has different designs. In the experiments, these were flashed with blue or green and, by a process known only to the maker, the brims were made either fuschia, light orchid, or light pink. This combination is presently called Blue or Fuschia Amberina. Only small quantities of these pieces were made but they were rather widely distributed throughout Ohio as gifts from the Dettling customers. Some of his pieces were shaped like a small bulbous vase or toothpick holder, but he concentrated mainly on the "top hat." These have now become very rare since the glass they were made of was very thin and therefore easily broken, and also because they were inexpensive and no one took any particular care of them. Now and then one will turn up in a different section of the country, not because it was shipped there to sell as are Imperial, Northwood, Fenton, and other makes of glassware, but because Ohioans sent them to friends outside the state as gifts. When they do turn up, the owner is considered very fortunate since they are already very difficult to find even though they have only recently come to the attention of the collector.

(continued on next page)

The maker died of lung ailment in 1920, leaving no record of his process, and Mr. Dettling could not recall his name when he told me this story in 1959. There is no mark on the glass but there can be no mistake in identifying the rare and beautiful pieces because of their distinctive design and color.

Now, after 45 years, we can pay homage to an obscure man who made the beautiful "High Hat" glassware possible just because he "wanted to keep his hand in."

James B. Tarter,

UPDATE on the "Tall Hats" and small thin hat-shaped toothpicks.

In 1965 or thereabouts, I, Jabe Tarter (James B. Tarter at the time), wrote for the American Carnival Glass Association, a story on the Tall Hats which were appearing on the market. I told the story about the Dettling Brothers, florists and seedmen in Akron, Ohio who had bought all the output of a person who wanted to keep his hand in and blew these items.

This was later reprinted in another publication, with the added note that one of the glass writers had thought they were made by Dunbar Glass.

Such is not the case. It is true that Dunbar Glass later made some of the very thin pieces of glass, but they never had the two-color, nor the shapes of the tall hats and the smaller tooth pick in the blue sprayed with the brim turning to pinkish lavender. The things they did make were hyacinth glasses, those little glasses in a shiny type of marigold, which held one hyacinth bulb to be forced into bloom.

As a florist, we bought thousands of these and sold thousands as well. As for the tall hats, I personally bought the remainder when I was injured; and have now, in my basement, 35 of the blue and lavender and 30 of the light marigold shaped from the unknown maker.

Jabe Tarter

Pictured below are a few of these tall hats and vases from our collection. Ken is always on the lookout for these beauties. All of these pictured are in the blue and lavender that Jabe writes of, with the exception of the third piece from the right in the picture, which is in marigold. Editor



IRIDESCENT STRETCH GLASS
- Russell & Kitty Umbraco

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